

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 L-03 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 RSR-01 /066 W

----- 009164

R 211057Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8490

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRETORIA 2953

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT SF

SUBJ: SCHLEBUSCH COMMISSION WITNESS REFUSES TO
TESTIFY

REF: PRETORIA 2789, CAPE TOWN A-37

1. MRS. ILONA KLEINSCHMIDT, SPECIAL PROJECT ON
CHRISTIANITY IN APARTHEID SOCIETY (SPRO-CAS) STAFF WORKER,
BECAME FIRST PERSON TO REFUSE TO TESTIFY BEFORE SCHLEBUSCH
COMMISSION. KLEINSCHMIDT ANSWERED SUBPOENA AND ON AUGUST 20
APPEARED BEFORE COMMISSION SUB-COMMITTEE INVESTIGATING
SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF RACE RELATIONS, BUT REFUSED TO
GIVE EVIDENCE BECAUSE SCHLEBUSCH COMMISSION DOES NOT FOLLOW
NORMAL JUDICIAL PROCEDURES.

2. LOUIS LE GRANGE, NATIONAL PARTY (NP) MP WHO IS CHAIRMAN OF
SUB-COMMITTEE, SUBSEQUENTLY ANNOUNCED THAT SUB-COMMITTEE
HAD DECIDED TO FORWARD TO ATTORNEY GENERAL DOCUMENTS
RELATING TO REFUSAL OF ANY WITNESS TO TESTIFY. PERSONS
CHARGED FOR REFUSING TO TESTIFY ARE SUBJECT TO FINE NOT
EXCEEDING R100 (\$150) AND JAIL SENTENCE NOT EXCEEDING SIX
MONTHS.

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3. THE TWO UNITED PARTY (UP) MEMBERS OF SUB-COMMITTEE

OPPOSED DECISION TO FORWARD CASES TO ATTORNEY
GENERAL AND PROPOSED MATTER BE REFERRED INSTEAD TO
FULL COMMISSION. ALTHOUGH UP OPPOSITION MORE
SYMBOLIC THAN SUBSTANTIVE, THIS FIRST TIME UP HAS
PUBLICLY BROKEN WITH NP MAJORITY ON COMMISSION
DECISIONS. IT IS DOUBTFUL, HOWEVER, THAT THIS ACTION
WILL SPARE UP FROM CRITICISM, AS CHURCHMEN (REFAIR)
AND OTHERS (REFTEL) ARE JAILED ON MATTERS OF CONSCIENCE.
SMITH

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NNN

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Disposition Authority: morefirh
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
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To: STATE
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